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Letter dated 7 November 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I am enclosing for information, a copy of the document entitled "Objectives of Jamaica's Presidency of the Security Council — November 2001".

I would be grateful if this could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) M. Patricia **Durrant**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 7 November 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Objectives of Jamaica's Presidency of the Security Council — November 2001

Jamaica considers its membership in the Security Council as an opportunity to serve the wider international community through the promotion of the work of the United Nations and its subsidiary organs in promoting sustainable peace and security. To that end, Jamaica seeks to enhance the role of the United Nations in conflict prevention, peacemaking, peacekeeping and peace-building. In carrying out its responsibilities, Jamaica's actions are not circumscribed or predetermined by any particular overriding national interest and Jamaica, therefore, is in a position to exercise its functions in an unbiased and objective manner.

Jamaica will continue to pursue those principles underlying our foreign policy objectives — the equal rights and self-determination of all peoples; respect for human rights and humanitarian law; the sovereign equality of all States; and the inviolability of the territorial integrity or political independence of any State. Jamaica will also vigorously advocate humanitarian and development issues in dealing with situations of potential conflict, current conflicts and post-conflict peace-building situations.

During its Presidency of the Security Council in November 2001, Jamaica will therefore use each opportunity to support initiatives which we believe best promote sustainable peace and security. Jamaica will continue to pay particular attention to the humanitarian effects of conflicts on the most vulnerable, particularly women and children, and will focus on the problems of children and armed conflict and the protection of civilians in armed conflict. Jamaica will continue to urge the Council and the United Nations as a whole to deal with situations of conflict which impact adversely on the humanitarian conditions of civilian populations.

The issues before the Security Council during November 2001 provide an opportunity for Jamaica and the Security Council to make advances in all of the foregoing areas. Conflicts in Africa, Central Asia, the Middle East and elsewhere will receive the full attention of the Security Council.

- The Council, under Jamaica's Presidency, will pay special attention to Angola, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia/Eritrea, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Somalia, and will give special emphasis to the regional dimensions of those conflicts.
  - High-level meetings with the Ministers of the regional and affected countries on Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Lusaka Political Committee) will be held to give impetus to the peace processes in those countries and regions;
  - The Council will seek to remove obstacles to the effective operation of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE);

- The Council will discuss the situation in Angola in an open debate in an effort to draw international attention to the obstacles to peace and the efforts needed to advance the peace process;

- The Council will undertake a review of its sanctions policy on Liberia and will pay special attention to the prevailing humanitarian situation in that country, as well as the regional dimensions of that conflict;

- The Council will continue its support of the peace process in Sierra Leone, through UNAMSIL, paying special attention to appropriate funding of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme, and to the establishment of the Special Court for Sierra Leone, which Jamaica considers of primary importance in the reconciliation and peace-building process.

- Jamaica's Presidency will keep the situation in Afghanistan under constant review by the Council, with particular attention to the humanitarian situation and possible long-term engagement of the United Nations in the resolution of the conflict and post-conflict peace-building and reconstruction.

- Jamaica will continue to seek a resolution of the conflict in Western Sahara, bearing in mind the inalienable right to self-determination of the Sahrawi people.

- Jamaica will continue to promote peaceful settlement of the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, within the framework of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), and the concept of land for peace.

Jamaica will continue its firm support of the counter-terrorism activities of the Security Council and the United Nations and, through its Presidency, will provide an opportunity, at the ministerial level, for the Security Council to advance the process.

In our continued efforts to promote the effectiveness of United Nations peacekeeping operations, in keeping with the recommendations of the Brahimi Panel, Jamaica will continue through its Chairmanship of the Security Council Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations to promote a strong triangular relationship between the Security Council, the troop-contributing countries and the Secretariat. We will continue to build on the gains achieved through resolutions 1327 (2000) and 1353 (2001), including full implementation of resolution 1353 (2001). Jamaica considers the role of troop-contributing countries to be of paramount importance to the effective implementation of peacekeeping mandates and, in this regard, will continue to seek ways to strengthen the relationship of troop-contributing countries with the Security Council.

During its Presidency Jamaica will promote further transparency in the work of the Security Council through scheduling of meetings of the Council in the format of open debates and briefings and allow for participation of non-Council members where appropriate. Jamaica will provide briefings to Member States not members of the Council, and will hold private meetings with affected and interested Member States on our own initiative, as appropriate, or as requested by affected States.

At the beginning of Jamaica's Presidency, at Jamaica's request, a new Presidential web site will be launched by the Secretariat, which will provide easy access to up-to-date information on the Council's work and decisions taken in the Council.